



# NEWS RELEASE

October 28, 2010

## **U.S. Embassy and U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency Officials Inaugurate Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Regional Headquarters in Butuan City**

To further enhance the administrative and logistics capability of the agents of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) operating in Northern Mindanao, the U.S. Embassy and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency inaugurated PDEA's newly renovated Regional Headquarters in Butuan City on October 28. Funded by the U.S. Government, the \$400,000 facility reinforces the U.S. Government's commitment to support the capability of civilian law enforcement agencies in Mindanao.

U.S. DEA Assistant Country Attaché Kent Marchant represented the U.S. Government while Agusan Del Norte 1<sup>st</sup> Dist., Butuan City and Las Nieves Rep. Jose Aquino; PDEA Director General Dionisio Santiago; Butuan City Mayor Ferdinand Amante and Agusan Del Norte Governor Erlpe John Amante represented the Philippine Government. Butuan Bishop Juan De Dios Pueblos also graced the occasion.

The renovation consisted of the complete demolition of the existing structure and the construction of a new modern facility. PDEA's Region XIII headquarters now consists of a two-storey building with administrative spaces, kitchen facilities, lavatories, two dormitories, a weapons magazine, and evidence locker.

"We hope that this building will provide a good base and office for the PDEA agents of Region XIII to carry out their missions as they strive to promote peace, security, and safety in a drug-free environment," said U.S. DEA Assistant Country Attaché Kent Marchant.

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## **PDEA Regional Headquarters in Northern Mindanao**

